

MANITOBA
FIREARM INCIDENTS
REPORT

Hunting and Non-Hunting
2008

Manitoba
Conservation
and
Manitoba
Wildlife Federation



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Manitoba Conservation acknowledges the assistance provided by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police who provided information for this Firearm Incidents Report. It is through this organization that detailed information on each firearm incident was obtained. This report does not necessarily include all firearm incidents in the province as we can only report on those incidents we receive information for.

NOTE: This report does not cover firearm incidents within the cities of Brandon or Winnipeg.

Prepared by
Mallory Gomez and Colin Merritt
Operations Headquarters
Compliance and Field Services
Manitoba Conservation
Box 44 - 200 Saulteaux Crescent
Winnipeg MB R3J 3W3

Royal Canadian Mounted Police and other police forces requiring additional incident report forms please write to Manitoba Conservation, 200 Saulteaux Crescent, Winnipeg Manitoba R3J 3W3 or phone 945-8671. Questions regarding the administration and delivery of the Manitoba Hunter and Firearm Safety Program should be directed to:

The Manitoba Wildlife Federation
70 Stevenson Road
Winnipeg MB R3H 0W7
633- Hunt (4868) or
1-877-633-Hun

SUMMARY

During 2008, there were four reported firearm-related incidents.

Two of the incidents were self-inflicted. Three of the incidents were fatal. One of the incidents involved a shooter less than 18 years of age.

All of the reported incidents were related to hunting. Three of the reported incidents occurred during a licenced hunting season.

Three of the reported incidents occurred at a distance of less than ten yards. One of the reported incidents occurred at a distance of less than fifty yards. Of the reported incidents, one involved a graduate of a Hunter Safety Program.

There were 3,130 students that completed the Manitoba Hunter and Firearm Safety course in 2008. 154,644 students have now graduated from the program since it began in 1964. Of the total, 169 have later become involved in a firearm incident, which represents 0.11%. In 2008, 13 new instructors were certified, bringing the total number of volunteers to approximately 230 active instructors.

In 1998 Manitoba Conservation entered into an agreement with the Manitoba Wildlife Federation (MWF). The agreement transferred the administration and delivery of the Manitoba Hunter and Firearm Safety Training Program to the MWF.

CAUSE OF INCIDENTS

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Victim out of sight of shooter	0	0
Victim moved into line of fire	0	0
Victim covered by shooter swinging on game	0	0
Victim mistaken for game	0	1
Shooter stumbled and fell	1	1
Using firearm as club	0	0
Trigger caught on bush or other object	1	1
Loaded firearm in vehicle	0	0
Firearm fell from insecure rest	0	0
"Horseplay" and/or "didn't know it was loaded"	0	0
Crossing fence or other obstacle with loaded firearm	0	0
Loading	0	0
Unloading	0	0
Defective firearm	0	0
Cleaning firearm	0	0
Loaded firearm in the home	0	0
Accidental discharge	1	1
Ricochet	0	0
Other	0	0
Unknown	0	0
Total	3	4

Average firearm incidents per year in 5-year increments since Hunter Safety Program commenced.

1964-1968	44.2
1969-1973	56.0
1974-1978	53.6
1979-1983	42.8
1984-1988	26.4
1989-1993	20.4
1994-1998	9.0
1999-2003	6.0
2004-2008	4.0

SYNOPSIS OF 2007 AND 2008 FIRE ARM INCIDENTS

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
A. Total Number of Incidents	3	4
Fatal	0	3
Non-Fatal	3	1
B. 1) Hunting Legally During Regular Season	0	2
Fatal	0	2
Non-Fatal	0	0
2) Treaty Indian Hunting	2	1
Fatal	0	1
Non-Fatal	2	0
3) Hunting Small Birds, Animals or Illegal Hunting	1	1
Fatal	0	0
Non-Fatal	1	1
4) Non-Hunting Incidents	0	0
Fatal in the home	0	0
Fatal in vehicle	0	0
Fatal outside home	0	0
Non-Fatal in the home	0	0
Non-Fatal in vehicle	0	0
Non-Fatal outside home	0	0
C. 5) Shooter Unknown	0	0
Fatal	0	0
Non-Fatal	0	0
D. 6) Incidents Involving Shooter under 18 years of age	0	1
All types of Hunting	0	1
Fatal	0	0
Non-Fatal	0	1
Non-Hunting	0	0
Fatal	0	0
Non-Fatal	0	0

TYPE OF FIRE ARM INVOLVED

		<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
A.	.22 Caliber Rim Fire Rifle	1	1
	Fatal	0	0
	Non-Fatal	1	1
B.	Center Fire Hi Power Rifle	1	1
	Fatal	0	1
	Non-Fatal	1	0
C.	Shotgun	1	2
	Fatal	0	2
	Non-Fatal	1	0
D.	Handgun	0	0
	Fatal	0	0
	Non-Fatal	0	0
E.	Pellet Gun	0	0
	Fatal	0	0
	Non-Fatal	0	0
F.	Other Muzzle Loader	0	0
	Fatal	0	0
	Non-Fatal	0	0
G.	Unknown/	0	0
	Fatal	0	0
	Non-Fatal	0	0
Total		3	4

DISTANCE OF VICTIM FROM SHOOTER

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
0 to 10 yards	3	3
10 to 50 yards	0	1
50 to 100 yards	0	0
Over 100 yards	0	0
Distance Unknown	0	0

OCCURRENCES

<u>Time of Day</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Midnight - 3:00 a.m.	0	0
3:00 a.m. - 6:00 a.m.	1	0
6:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	0	0
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	0	1
12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m.	1	1
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	0	1
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	0	1
9:00 p.m. - 12:00 midnight	1	0
Unknown	0	0

By Day

Sunday	0	0
Monday	0	0
Tuesday	0	1
Wednesday	0	0
Thursday	1	1
Friday	1	1
Saturday	1	1

By Month

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
January	0	0
February	0	0
March	0	0
April	1	0
May	0	0
June	0	0
July	0	1
August	0	0
September	0	0
October	1	2
November	1	1
December	0	0

COMPARISON OF NUMBER OF HUNTING LICENCES SOLD

	GAME BIRD	BIG GAME	TOTAL
1970	45,822	47,156	92,978
1975	48,687	11,606*	60,293
1980	58,091	60,505	118,596
1985	35,342	52,541	87,883
1990	34,571	60,006	94,577
1995	24,511	67,883	92,394
2000	19,584	61,318	80,902
2001	18,266	64,098	82,364
2002	17,841	63,703	81,544
2003	18,734	64,220	82,954
2004	16,990	66,134	83,124
2005	16,758	67,078	83,836
2006	18,280	70,549	88,829
2007	18,700	70,173	88,873
2008	17,885	69,682	87,567

* Indicates closed deer season

**COMPARISON OF TOTAL FIREARM INCIDENTS
LICENSED HUNTING INCIDENTS WITH TOTAL HUNTING LICENCES ISSUED**

YEAR	TOTAL LICENSES ISSUED	TOTAL FIREARM INCIDENTS	LICENCED HUNTING INCIDENTS
1985	87,883	26	7
1990	94,577	22	6
1995	92,394	15	1
2000	80,902	3	1
2001	82,364	6	1
2002	81,544	2	1
2003	82,954	4	3
2004	83,124	6	0
2005	83,836	5	0
2006	88,829	3	2
2007	88,873	3	0
2008	87,567	4	3

SUMMARY OF 2008 INCIDENTS

DATE AND TIME	AGE OF SHOOTER AGE OF VICTIM	FATAL	TYPE OF FIREARM	MUZZLE DISTANCE	GAME HUNTED	SHOOTER WAS A GRADUATE OF HUNTER SAFETY	CIRCUMSTANCES
July 29 1:00 pm	S - 12 Self Inflicted	No	.22 Caliber Rifle	0 - 10 yards	Pigeon	No	Victim brought rifle to his eye and hit himself with the scope and then fell. The loaded gun hit the ground and discharged into his head.
October 9 6:28 pm	S - 70 V - 74 Not Self Inflicted	Yes	.410 Caliber Shotgun (slug)	10 - 50 yards	Beaver	No	Shooter hunting beavers in heavily wooded area. Shooter lined up a shot at what he believed was a beaver but turned out to be hunting partners head.
October 31 5:00 pm	S - 20 V - 14 Not Self Inflicted	Yes	Shotgun	0 - 10 yards	Grouse	No	Shooter and victim were struggling for firearm as both wanted to use it.
November 29 10:50 am	S - 70 Self Inflicted	Yes	7 mm Rifle	0 - 10 yards	Deer	Yes	While bending over and removing a loaded rifle from inside a vehicle it discharged and a round struck him in the hand and lodged in his chest.

S - Shooter

V - Victim

